

ILLUSTRATED SPORTING THEATRICAL NEWS

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SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1866.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

THE PASTIMES OF THE PEOPLE.

There is an announcement in the papers of a new park for Liverpool. Lord Selton and the people of that important town have come to terms, and of four hundred acres two hundred are to be laid out in a park for the people. In country villages there is sometimes a green, sometimes a cricket club—but not always even that, and that is the extent of their opportunities of gaining out-door amusement. There should not be a gymnasium for instruction from a proper master, and many a leisure half-hour might be profitably spent by those within easy distance. The entrance fees should be as low as possible, for many a poor man suffers now from want of such recreation, and an inducement to seek it. Most men could do something, but no artisan has time for set games, such as cricket or rackets, even had he the opportunity. The London Athletic Club, for a higher class of subscribers, has begun well. Liverpool is already in the van, and other large towns are beginning to follow her example of educating the body as well as the mind; and, throughout the country, the *mens sana in corpore sano* principle is gradually being adopted.

THE DOG TAX.

The *Times*, in alluding to the recent proposed reduction of the dog-tax, which all must own would be a sensible proceeding, gives the following pertinent leader, which we shall make no apology for extracting at length, its sound sense being patent to all—

"If Mr. Gladstone were to analyse his division of mankind into dog lovers and dog haters, he would probably find the former class in a majority among those who live in the country, and the latter among those who live in towns. There can hardly be a greater nuisance than the London cur, snapping at restive horses, tripping up decrepit foot-passengers, barking at boys with baskets, pilfering from the counters of provision-shops, and serving no useful purpose whatever. If it were possible to impose and enforce a double tax on the owners of these odious and mischievous animals, which only escape being stolen because they are worthless, the measure would certainly be supported by public opinion in the metropolis. In rural districts, on the other hand, the canine race is far more popular. Not to speak of hounds, which form a class by themselves, or of dogs which are kept for the sake of companionship in or out of the house, the services of watchdogs and sheepdogs are such that no restrictive tax upon them would long be tolerated. In Scotland, especially, where the sheep roam over hill sides of vast extent, the shepherd would be helpless without his colley dog, and is not always very willing to part with him at the church door. The marvellous instinct of this breed in the management of flocks is, indeed, little short of the faculty which we call reason, and we can hardly find it in our hearts to grudge them their exemption from taxation. Scotland, however, is more infested than any part of the United Kingdom, except Ireland, with 'ownerless dogs,' roving over the country, and living at free quarters upon the farmers. No one knows who breeds them, and Mr. Elliot, who called the attention of Parliament to this subject on Friday night, did not explain how they come to attach themselves to cottages where, according to him, they never get fed. They multiply, at all events, and no tax is ever paid for them, although, if Mr. Elliot's account is correct, they ought not only to be taxed, but exterminated. He tells us that the loss of sheep in Scotland amounts to 10 per cent. per annum, and that a large proportion of this is attributed to the ravages of dogs, which are practically exempt from duty. He adds that a *cordon* established to prevent the

movement of diseased cattle is completely eluded and defeated by the excursions of these dogs, which, no one, we presume, ventures to shoot, lest an owner should start up to demand compensation. This state of things affords the legislature a good opportunity of reconsidering the general policy of the Dog-tax."

JOTTINGS FROM PARIS.

The Paris correspondent of the *Telegraph* of Tuesday, writes as follows. Its interest will be a sufficient excuse for our extracting it at length.

But I have two short episodes of this season of "festivity" to relate. Oh, I am so sorry! Our Jockey Club Isabelle has not, I fear, been behaving quite like a little lady. She "made a face"—it is called in the more striking language of our fiery neighbour the Gaul, "an infernal face"—at a policeman, and the head cook had had to uselessly gesture—at an *arrestement*. "The event," so the papers gravely state, "caused a trooping of people in the streets." The other story is as follows: English gentleman to English coachman, "I follow a dashing Frenchy! Never!" (Pronounced for a certain

reason "Neverah.") "Neverah" followed carriage before, and not going to begin at any time of life." So he galloped past the carriage he was to follow, and his master and mistress found themselves introduced to the Roid-Pont basin instead of the Minister of Affairs.

On Friday was given the hundredth representation of "L'Africaine." Enormous house—Meyerbeer's bust crowned with a posthumous laurel—and great enthusiasm. *Après* of this, I send you a return of certain pieces which have run a hundred nights, and—excuse the racing phrase—the time they ran the distance in: "L'Africaine," ten months and three days; "La Muette," two years and two months; "Le Prophète," two years and three months; "Robert le Diable," two months and five months; "Le Comte d'Orly," two years and eleven months; "Aladdin," three years and five days; "Les Huguenots," three years and five months; "Le Rossignol," four years and two months; "Gustave III.," four years and eleven months; "Guillaume Tell," five years and one month; "La Juive," five years and four months; "Le Trouvère," six years and thirteen days; "L'Éclat de l'Amour," six years and four months; "La Philine," six years and five months; "Trajan," seven years; "Le Dieu et la Bayadère," seven years and eight months; "La Favorite," eight years and eleven months; "Les Bayadères," eight years and eleven months; "La Vestale," eight years and six months; "Moïse," eleven years and five months; "Le Siège de Corinthe," twelve years and four months; "La Reine de Chypre," twelve years and five months; "Fernand Cortes," thirteen years and nine months; "Astartée," fourteen years and four months; "Le Serment," fifteen years and seven months; "Anacréon chez Polyarète," sixteen years and eleven months; "Les Mystères d'Isis," seventeen years and two months; and "La Xacarella," twenty-two years and nine months. The following ballets have also run a hundred nights: "Flora et Zéphyr," "Mars et Vénus," "Cendrillon," "La Tentation," "Le Carnaval de Venise," "Nina," "Les Noces de Gumache," "Les Pâques du Duc de Vendôme," "La Sylphide," "La Sonambule," "Le Diable à Quatre," "Paul et Virginie," and "Grisélie."

The sudden change to cold is trying. Riding in the Bois yesterday was rather like being shaved with a bad razor, and the female world looked blue, and blue is unbecoming. By the way, I witnessed a curious effect at the end of the lake the other evening. The cascade was falling—it is turned on and off when the *plaisir* of some gardening or park-keeping official—into the lake, and all around arose a dense vapour as if the falling water were boiling. The day had been very stormy and had cleared as days often do just at sunset, leaving a bank of heavy masses of discoloured cloud; a strange garish light stained the whole background, tinting also this suspicious vapour as it was wafted over the lake. Another party—a short, fat native on horseback, with his feet the wrong way in his stirrups—a gentleman, and myself, were much struck with the scene! The very ducks forgot to quack, and the swans were dumb, and, walked the water lilies of willow-wood. I have no doubt there was nothing in it. Is there anything in anything? But the effect was certainly striking. So was my sympathetic "other party," as catching hold of his horse's head lightly, and with a severe curb and bumping himself steadily on his inverted stirrups, he trotted off to his home. He had found a sensation; let us suppose he lost nothing. Do you, gentle reader, want any more sensations fresh from Paris? *Eccoli dunque!* A man lost six thousand louis here one night last week, and paid it before the inevitable "four p.m." next day, and two Venetians—I judge them of course only from the mantoux Venetians, which were *derrière* at the ball—got up so much hot blood



MRS. G. V. BROOKE (AVONIA JONES),

Widow of the celebrated G. V. Brooke, lost on board the ill-fated "London."

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[illegible]

Mr. R. Calder's Marksmen (h b), by Artillery—dam by H. C. Way, 1
5 yrs, 12st 7lb J. Knott 3
Mr. J. H. H. Laidlaw's Lady Sykes (h b), 4 yrs, 11st 4lb by Mr. C. Boynton 2
Mr. J. Holday's Ostwist, 6 yrs, 12st 4lb J. Knott 3
Mr. F. A. Milbank's Comus, 6 yrs, 12st 4lb Mr. R. P. Hanson 0
Mr. W. Masterman's Our Jim (late Castle Espie), 5 yrs, 11st 10lb H. Grimshaw 0
Mr. T. Lundie's Bubble, 5 yrs, 11st 13lb Mr. Morris 0
Mr. Walker's Phillis (h b), 6 yrs, 11st 10lb Mr. R. Walker 0
Mr. T. Bancroft's Elsinore, 6 yrs, 11st 13lb Mr. R. Walker 0
Mr. J. H. Laidlaw's Rinderpeck (h b), aged, 10st 4lb Mr. G. Robinson 0
Mr. F. Ellows's Elsinore (h b), 4 yrs, 10st 11lb Mr. T. Price 0
Betting: 3 to 1 each agt Lady Sykes and Elsham, 7 to 2 agt Marksmen, and

No. 14980 Ostrich.

The following are the work, followed by Marksman, Lady Sykes, Rindapat-
and Philis, with Elsinore in the rear. Lady Sykes, Marksman, and Ostwick
an in close company to the distance, when the two former drew away, Mar-
can win easily by half a length. Ostwick was beaten by six lengths for second
place. Comus was ball fourth, and Our Jim, at an interval, fifth, and Elisham
sixth. Riderport and Handicap were last.
Handicap, of 3 stvs each, with 25 added, for horses of
all ages; winner after the publication of the weights 7lb extra. 5 furlongs,
162 yards. Subst.

Mr. C. Peck Junr's, Chessman, by Young Melbourne—Allerö,	Carrall
3 yrs, Td 5lb	
Mr. J. S. Star's Count, 3 yrs, Td 2lb	Heartfield
Mr. R. Calder's The Count, 5 yrs, Stt 8lb	Morris
Mr. R. Wadley's s by Voltigeur—Berolin, 3 yrs, Td 5lb	

Betting: 2 to 1 on Chessman, 5 to 1 agst The Count, and 100 to 12 agst Star Cross.

The favorite took up the running after going about 200 yards, and won after a rattling finish, by a neck; The Count a bad third.

The SELLING HANDICAP, PURPLE RACE of 5 sows each, with 40 added; winner extra; the winner to be sold for 50mvs. About a mile and three quarters over eight flights of hurdles. 8 sbs.

1st—J. Jacob, by Nelly Buck—Fortitude, aged, 10st 11lb

Mr. Robert Walker's Umballah, 6 yrs, 9st 10lb	... Owner 2
Mr. R. Barker's Arbuton, aged, 8st 4lb	... Mr. Sison 3
Mr. Thellinson's Velud, 5 yrs, 8st 3lb	... H. States 0

The first race was run at 4 o'clock, and consisted of two heats. In the first heat, the following horses were entered—*Umballah*, 2 agst *Velud*, and 4 to 1 agst *Umballah*. The result was as follows:—*Umballah* won by a head, leaving *Jacob* with the lead, which he retained to the end, and won in a quarter by four lengths; a bad third. The winner was not paid.

THE GREAT NORTH OF ENGLAND STEEPCHASE OF 10 SOVS each, 5fl., with 10 added; 5 fl. extra:—To be ridden to receive 25 sovs out of the stakes. About three miles and a half. 27 sbs.

Mr. Hudson's *Meanwood*, by Oulton—dam by Cowsl, aged, 10st 9lb

Mr. G. Walker's Pigeon, aged, 11st 13lb	Mr. G. Walker	2
Mr. J. Forster's Forelight, 6 yrs, 10st	Waddington	3

Betting: 6 to 5 on Pigeon. Meawood made the running with several long
 lead of pigeon, who closed in the last quarter of mile, and the pair charged
 in the last flight of hurdles at the same instant; Meawood again won cleverly by
 length. Forelight was pulled up a mile from home, but afterwards passed the
 post when the others had weighed.

The CONFECTION STAKES did not fill.

BETTING AT THE VICTORIA CLUB.—THURSDAY.
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.
3 to 1 agst Mail Train (taken)
10 to 1 — Scamander (off)
12 to 1 — Pearl Diver (t)

CITY AND SUBURBAN.
33 to 1 1st Delight (offers to take)
GREAT SKEEPLECHASE.
3 to 1 1st Salamander (t)
8 to 1 — Creole (t and off)

ALBERT CLUB—THURSDAY.
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.
5 to 2 agst Mail Train (t)
10 to 1 agst 2nd 24

12 to 1 — Hagian (t)
TWO THOUSAND.
11 to 4 agst Student (t)
3 to 1 — Lord Lyon (t)
11 to 1 — bar two
CHESTER CUP.

100 to 8 agot Gong (t)
40 to 1 -- Saladin (t)
CITY AND SUBURBAN.
8 to 1 agot Out and Outer (t f)
DERBY.

At Tattersall's, on Monday last, the following notice was posted:—
Mr. Sutton's horses, except Jezebel, were struck out of their Northam
sale at 10 o'clock on March 10."

It is reported that Ion, in William Goater's stable, has injured himself through getting his fore leg entangled in the manger.

Mr. O'Hara has sent three horses to be trained privately at Littleton, their number will be shortly augmented.
Mr. McGeorge has been appointed starter at Worcester, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Marshall.
The Scottish National Steeplechases take place on the 26th and 27th of May, over the Deerpark Station of the North British Railway.

Captain Barlow has disposed of Elmsdale, 5 yrs. by Annandale on The Nugget, to Mr. Dangar, and he has been shipped for Australia. Merrimac and Hall Cows are matched for £500 a side, £200 forfeit, to three miles at Warwick (owners up), on the last day of the Grand Mil

We understand that Mail Train, the Northamptonshire Stakes "pot," changed hands, and now belongs to one of "the upper ten."

Burley (Leeds) hurdle and flat races will take place in the Cardigan Ground, Kirkstall-road, on Easter Monday and Tuesday, April 2 and 3.

the same name, having got too heavy to be of use in racing stables; had Lord St. Vincent's service, and will be glad of an engagement as hunt groom to any nobleman or gentleman, either at home or abroad.

WARWICK SPRING MEETING.—The weights for the Handicap Plate, the Handicap Hurdle, and the Handicap Steeplechase, were published on Wednesday night.

MELTON HUNT STEEPLECHASERS.—This meeting will come off at Burton, Melton, this day (Saturday), the day after Croxton Park races. The e closed on Tuesday last, to Major Paynter, Melton Mowbray, but post e were made up to the evening of Friday.

NORTHAMPTON AND PITCHLEY HUNT RACES.—The Trial Stakes, Maiden's Estate, the Ditch Stakes, and the Lowest Handicap Plate.

NORTHAMPTON SCRATCHINGS.—Nightwatch and Gunlock are struck out of the Great Northamptonshire Stakes; Seringapatam out of the Althorp Stakes; Split the Difference and Gunlock out of the St. Liz Handicap. Gardevisure, Enze Chat, and Lady Andlev out of Earl Spencer's Plate.

THE GRAND NATIONAL HUNT STEEPLECHASES.—The entries for the National Hunt shows a list of 43 nominations, and 137 subscribers pay 1 each. The West Somerset Open Handicap has 47 entries, including J. caine, Cortolvin, Salamander, Acrobat, Alcibiade, Mount Gifford, Hall Penarth, Lord George, Old Oswestry, Globale, and other celebrated st

Mr. Ten Broeck, at Warwick, sold by auction the two-yr-old Triang 10½ guineas. Ethelred was strack out of the Willoughby Handicap, Warwick, at noon on the day of the race.

The administration of the Imperial studs in Russia will hold a horse sale at Moscow, for horses foaled in that country. It will last from September 1 to September 27.

Athletic Sports.

THE GREAT GATHERING OF OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE.
OXFORD, SATURDAY, MARCH 10.

The third year of these athletic games was brought to a most satisfactory conclusion on Saturday last; we may call it on this occasion the meeting of the "Rival Universities," who on that day met in the meadows of the Christ Church Cricket Club beyond the bridge of Magdalen.

The ground was, considering the late weather, in first-rate order, which will be found by the time in which the different races were got through. The management, as regards the decisions of the various events decided, was first-class; but as to the control of the "bullitions of the collegians, the less said the better. The following were the stewards:—(Cambridge: F. H. Cheetham (Trinity Hall), R. C. Garrett (Trinity), A. S. Law (Jesus), O. B. Lawes (Trinity), Hon. F. G. Pelham (Trinity), L. M. L. Tiffany (Emmanuel), R. G. Gatty (Christ's). Oxford: B. S. Darbyshire (Wadham), Earl Jersey (Balliol), D. Morgan (Magdalen Hall), D. Pocklington (Brasenose), E. W. Tritton (Christ Church), Judges: T. G. Chambers (Trinity, Cambridge), R. A. Mitchell (Balliol, Oxon). Referee: R. E. Webster (Trinity, Cambridge).

The general feeling was strongly in favour of the success of Cambridge, and not without some show of reason. At Cambridge these athletic sports have been practised for some time, and it is only within the last three years or so that she has challenged Oxford to compete with her. For the last few years Oxford has generally lost in these games, but has as regularly reversed the verdict by winning the great event of the year—the boat-race, the honour gained by which is indisputably greater than a victory in all the other athletic sports put together. Within the last two years, however, the Oxford men have paid more attention to jumping, running, throwing the hammer, &c., and the result has been a very close approach to the excellence of Cambridge.

Oxford, Mr. W. P. Bowman, of University College, Oxford, being a good second. From the first moment of starting in this race the result was never doubtful, Mr. Laing with the utmost ease running away from his competitors. The race was run in 4 minutes 45 seconds, and the result elicited tremendous cheers from the Oxonians, who had not calculated apparently upon winning it with such facility. The main champion of Cambridge, Mr. C. B. Lawes, of Trinity, from whom everything was expected, made but a poor show in the race, and at last resigned the contest. It was stated that he was indisposed and had been overworked in training and in preliminary contests.

The contest for the High Jump was won easily by Cambridge, Mr. J. Roupell, of Trinity, and Mr. T. G. Little, of St. Peter's, leaping respectively 5ft 6in and 5ft 6in. Mr. F. Parsons, of Magdalen, Oxford, jumped to 5ft 4in, but could get no farther, and Mr. W. O. Stuart, Merton, Oxford, failed at 5ft 2in. The jumping of Mr. Roupell shows, but it was very deficient in style, and any of the competitors might derive a good lesson in the grace of jumping from seeing what takes place on Good Friday at the Agricultural Hall, Islington.

The 100 Yds Flat Race brought forth four competitors; Mr. R. W. Vign, St. John's, Oxford, and Mr. T. M. Colmore, Brasenose, ran a dead heat, and beat both the Cambridge men. It was, however, a desperate race, as may be guessed when we say it was run in ten seconds, and the beaten Oantabs were only a yard behind. Like the previous race, this was regarded as one of the great honours of the contest, and both the "dark blues" getting in first elicited tremendous cheers from the College companions.

In Throwing the Weight (56lb) both the Cambridge men won—Mr. G. W. Elliott (Trinity) throwing it 32ft 10in, and Mr. R. Waltham (St. Peter's) 32ft 9in, both the Oxford competitors—Mr. D. Morgan and Mr. C. O. Ootes—being beaten by more than two feet.

The Flat Race of a quarter of a mile was another victory for Cambridge, but was the only one of the races they gained. The starters for Cambridge were the Hon. F. G. Pelham (Trinity) and Mr. P. H. Cheetham (Trinity Hall); for Oxford, Mr. E. Nolan (St. John's) and Mr. M. G. G. Knight (Magdalen). For a good space round the course it seemed as if Mr. Nolan would certainly win. Mr. Pelham

P. Bowman, University, appeared for Oxford. Messrs. W. Long, Trinity; R. C. Garrett, ditto; T. G. Little, who had won the long jump, and who ran in the place of Mr. Lawes, who was indisposed, represented Cambridge. The starters having got off in rather a straggling line, Mr. Garrett took the lead, Johnson second, Little third, Laing, on whom the hopes of Oxford depended, being last. When nearly half a mile had been run Mr. Johnson took the lead from Garrett. Thus the men kept alternating, as each was virtually allowed by the others to take the lead and force the pace. Before a mile had been run, however, it was evident that the chief honour lay between Mr. Long and Mr. Laing, each in turn becoming the favourite as he grew intense, and the contest assumed a really painful interest as the men dashed past gasping, and each in reply to renewed calls made the most desperate efforts to win, though they seemed scarcely able to stagger along. At the last round the feelings of excitement grew beyond all bounds. The course was broken into by thousands of Long and Laing, who were now abreast, shrieking, calling, to them, and acting, in short, like so many madmen in their efforts to keep up the energies of their separate representatives. As they came near the finishing post the excitement was almost indescribable, for the men, though still abreast of each other, were evidently exhausting their last efforts to get ahead. For the last 100 yds the pace was frightful, and each competitor seemed more likely to fall than run another yard. Both, however, dashed on to the very close, and in spite of every effort that either could make, both breasted the winning rope at the same instant, amid such a tumult of cheers and rejoicings from both Oxford and Cambridge as has probably been seldom heard before, except at the great contest between the hosts of the Universities. Both men seemed very much distressed, and it was a long time before the rival cheers for Laing and Long were ceased by the announcement of the stewards that it had been a dead heat, and neither had won. Mr. Little, who had never run a foot race before, and who was only suddenly called upon to take the place of a comrade who was unwell, made a very good third, though his previous exertions had apparently been sufficient to leave him no chance in such a contest. The time



OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE ATHLETIC SPORTS.—POLE-LEAPING.

Thus, on Saturday, though the odd event was in favour of their antagonists, the honours of the contest were on the whole equally divided, for though Oxford did not win so many, yet what she did win were the most important of the games. The general feeling as to the merits of the competitors also was most curiously reversed by the actual tests. Cambridge, for instance, felt certain of winning most, if not all, the races, and the Oxford men were as confident of victory in throwing the hammer or putting the weight. But, as it turned out, Oxford won most of the running contests, and was just as signally defeated in the latter trials. This competition, as we have said, was carried on in the cricket-ground meadows, which on Saturday were about the dampest and bleakest fields in which a large company ever shivered without shelter. The day, too, was bitterly keen, and the piercing north-easterly blasts were only varied by short driving showers of rain and sleet. Yet, in spite of all this, such was the interest felt that from 8,000 to 10,000 visitors were present, and remained from the very commencement of the sports till they were brought to most exciting conclusion at half-past five in the evening by one of the most keenly contested races ever run.

The first event of the day was Throwing the Hammer, one of the few things which were looked upon as a certainty for Oxford. Yet Oxford lost, both the Cambridge men beating her champions. The most conspicuous of these latter was Mr. D. Morgan, of Magdalen Hall. Mr. Morgan, it is stated, can easily throw the hammer 100 feet; but just before the trials he had been very unwell, and on this important occasion could only send it whirling to a distance of 86 feet 6 inches. Mr. R. T. James, of Jesus, Cambridge, beat this by throwing it 85 feet 2 inches, and for a long time Mr. James kept the lead, till Mr. T. R. Thornton, of the same college, Cambridge, threw 87 feet 7 inches, which was the longest throw made. Mr. Morgan's colleague was evidently unequal to his task, and did nothing worth recording. Thus Cambridge won with both her men. It may be worthy of mention, however, that all three of the gentlemen whom we have named have while in practice been able to throw the hammer, which weighs 16lb, a distance of 100 feet. But not one of them could accomplish this distance on Saturday, just as it sometimes happens when in practising the University crews can generally row their course over the river in a shorter time than they do it contesting the actual match.

The flat race of One Mile which followed throwing the hammer was won with comparative ease by Mr. J. W. Laing, of Christ Church,

joined him two or three times, and for a short distance all four were all together, running desperately, and stimulated to their utmost efforts by the cries of their companions. Coming near home, however, Pelham put on a tremendous spurt and at last passed Nolan, and won by nearly three yards. Mr. Nolan was a good second. Some idea may be formed of the speed when we say that from start to close the quarter of a mile was run in 53 seconds.

The first honours for the Long Jump were won by Mr. T. G. Little (St. Peter's, Cambridge), who made a magnificent spring of no less than 20ft 4in. Mr. W. F. Maitland (Christ Church, Oxford), took the second prize, clearing 19ft 11in. Mr. A. O. Tosawill (Oriental) jumped almost as well as his colleague. The second Cambridge competitor, Mr. T. Law (Jesus), having hurt his leg, could not jump at all, and was absolutely out of the reckoning.

The Hurdle Race was a most spirited contest. It was only for a distance of 120 yards, but even this short length was made difficult by the ten rows of stout hurdles four feet high, placed at intervals of 12 yards, so that the runners had scarcely cleared one when they were upon the others. This contest resulted in a clear victory to Oxford, both her men getting in first. The winners were Mr. D. Morgan (Magdalen Hall) and Mr. R. W. Vidal (St. John's). Mr. T. Milvain (Trinity Hall) and Mr. L. M. Tiffany (Emmanuel) represented Cambridge. All the men got well off, and cleared their hurdles flying. Mr. Tiffany leading. At the third or fourth hurdle, however, he jumped out of distance, struck and got a heavy fall, which gave his opponents the lead. In an instant, however, he was up again, and came clearing the hurdles in such a fashion, and so rapidly overhauling his opponents, that it was clear, had the race been for 150 yards, he would have won. As it was, both the Oxford men, as we have said, got in first, but not without a sharp struggle. This was the most beautiful race of the day, and it was wonderful to see the speed at which the men came, and the ease and lightness with which they seemed to fly over the close row of hurdles. The race was run in 15 seconds. Perhaps, with regard to this race, we may venture to suggest that the hurdles might be made lighter and less dangerous without in the slightest degree detracting from its interest. As they were constructed on Saturday they were really formidable obstacles, not so much, of course, from their height as from their roughness and great solidity.

For which six competitors entered, three of each University. Messrs. J. W. Laing, Christ Church, A. H. Johnson, Exeter; W.

in which this two mile race was run was only ten minutes. The result of the whole contest shows that the two Universities have as nearly as possible divided the honours. In throwing the hammer, both the Cambridge men were first; in the flat race of one mile both the Oxford men were first. In the High Jump both the Cambridge men won; in the flat race of a quarter of a mile Cambridge was first and Oxford second. In the Long Jump the Cambridge man was first, but both the Oxford men were near him, and the other representative of Cambridge was nowhere. In the hurdle race both the Oxford men won; and in the great two mile race the champions of the two Universities ran to a dead heat. On the whole the most important of the events were won by Oxford.

The dead heaters in the Two Miles Race received an ovation, being carried from the Pavilion to their carriages on the shoulders of members of their colleges. There is no doubt that the annual competition between the Light and Dark Blue of 1866 was an immense success. Mr. Charles Westhall, of Ball's Life, was official time keeper, and when the latter fact is mentioned no further comment as to accuracy, as well as satisfaction, is needed.

The last race was the great event of the day.

ANGLING.

Secretaries of societies and fishermen of whatever taste or peculiarity, are respectfully requested to forward contributions concerning the prospects of their localities, and any interesting information relative to this delightful branch of sports, the season for which will soon be at its zenith. Contributions on Rowing and Swimming receive every attention at our hands.

THAMES TATTLE.

On Monday, the 26th ult., the river in the neighbourhood of Staines, Laleham and Chertsey, was again in good condition for fishing. During the morning of that day Samuel Harris, of Laleham, caught there twenty-two very fine perch, several of them being a pound each. On Tuesday, the next day, John Harris, of Laleham, accompanied by a gentleman from Chertsey, took nineteen very fine

THAMES ANGLING.—The close of the fishing season especially in the beautiful place of water running between the two locks of Monksley and Sunbury, a distance of about three miles. One angler who had been perch fishing for several days took on an average 20lb of fish each day, one day's capture reaching 33lb. Others, whilst fishing with Clark's Sunbury, have been catching 10lb of Angling for roach, bream, tench and carp. There has been a gentleman taking ten some good sized fish in good condition in one day. There have been some good catches of perch taken from the neighbourhood of Teddington Lock by some of the fishermen there. The water has been in a bad state for jack-fishing, and consequently angling for them has been useless to attempt. The water has been so low that the shoals of roach and perch in the ditches, but the assistant river keepers of the Thames Angling Preservation Society have been employed in returning them to their proper place. It will be satisfactory to those interested in fish culture to know that the young fry in the hatching apparatus at Hampton are doing well, and they are not so much affected by the severity and changeableness of the weather. A box of trout eggs has been received from France in capital condition.

AQUATICS.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

	MORNING.	AFTERNOON.
SATURDAY, March 17,	5 min past 2	15 min past 2
SUNDAY	54 min past 2	14 min past 3
MONDAY	36 min past 3	57 min past 3
TUESDAY	18 min past 4	39 min past 4
WEDNESDAY	1 min past 5	24 min past 5
THURSDAY	47 min past 5	9 min past 6
FRIDAY	33 min past 6	1 min past 7
SATURDAY	30 min past 7	1 min past 8

In calculating the time of High Water at Chislen, 35 minutes must be added to that given at London Bridge; 50 minutes must be added for Putney; Hammersmith is one hour later; Barnes, 1 hour and 10 minutes; Kew, 1 hour and 30 minutes; and Richmond, 1 hour and 50 minutes later than London Bridge.

THE UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE.

In alluding to the great annual encounter between the Universities, the *Telegraph* of Monday has the following article, which we extract verbatim. Its all absorbing interest must be our excuse for giving entire insertion to the article:—

"In a few weeks the great aquatic contest of the year will be decided at Putney. The Oxford and Cambridge eight-oared match has become a national institution, and even the non-academic public would feel great regret were anything to prevent its occurrence. At one time, however, the dispute provoked by Cambridge, in raising the question whether students of more than a certain standing should be allowed to row, threatened to prevent the match, at least for the year. Into the merits of the controversy we need not now enter. There was much to be said on both sides; but, even assuming as a matter of hypothesis that the pretensions put forward by Cambridge could be justified on abstract grounds, it is clear that her representatives would have acted most unwisely in insisting upon rights which, if recognised, must prove fatal to the possibility of an aquatic meeting between the two Universities. They were not in a position to dictate terms. Had they persisted in their original demands, and declined to compete with their former victors, unless certain rowers were virtually excluded from the Oxford crew, they would have exposed themselves to unpleasant and unanswerable comments. The step would have been taken as a confession of inferiority. Everybody would have said that they raised the objection because they knew they must fail; and the most loyal of Cambridge men would certainly rather see the 'light blue' beaten hollow year after year, than have it asserted that the modern representatives of the great old rowing club were afraid to meet their hereditary antagonists. Happily this danger has been avoided. Whatever may be the issue, we are sure to have a gallant contest, in which, as usual, each side will do its best to win. Probably there is no other competition in which the best man so invariably gains the day as in an University boat race; and impartial spectators will not doubt decide with truth that the victors deserve their honours. Already the banks of the Isis and the Cam are crowded daily by youthful spectators, each concourse anxiously watching the progress of those who have been picked out to represent their University on the Thames. No doubt the same eager discussions, and the same surprises and disappointments, attend the selection of the University Eight, as Cambridge used to witness when they carried all before her. We may safely assume, too, that the interminable controversy about the respective advantages of a long stroke and a quick stroke, is now carried on at college dinners and breakfasts, with hunches and little chance of settlement as when it was first started years and years ago. And we may still more safely assert that, in order to qualify themselves for a task of intense physical exertion and painful endurance, involving no other reward than honour—some score of young men in the very prime and flower of youth are now undergoing a course of discipline and training from which many a soldier or sailor would shrink in disgust.

"But our object in referring to the subject is, not to celebrate the glories of rowing, or the prowess of our aquatic athletes; what we want is, to put in a word for the non-rowing and non-university portion of the community. These chiefly interested in the match intend, it is said, that it should take place at some unearthly hour of the morning. Now, on behalf of the public, we protest against such an arrangement. It is all very well for boys of seventeen to get up before daybreak, take a hasty breakfast, and then rush down to Putney, at the time when common people are beginning to think of getting up; but to nine-tenths of the vast crowds who, of late years, have gone to see the contest, the necessity of rising at an untimely hour, with the consequent sacrifice of rest and breakfast, is a serious matter. Moreover, even if they could nerve themselves to the effort, they know very well they would not be repaid for the trouble. A boat race in the middle of the day, while the river's banks are lined with gaily dressed ladies, with hunches looming in the future, presents a delightful prospect; but a race in the chill of the early morning is a different affair. Practically, if the managers should fix upon the hour, the non-professional public will stop away. The ardent devotees of boating may answer that the absentees will not be missed; but their opinion will scarcely be shared by men of common sense. The University crews, indeed, do not row to please the crowds along the river-side; but their members must be different from ordinary lads if the presence of a crowd of spectators is not a powerful incentive to exertion. The juvenile aristocrats of the Universities may sneer about the 'mob,' but, as a matter of fact, they would be sorry if the mob were not there to see them. Last year the occasion of the Oxford and Cambridge race was made a holiday throughout London; and while the master was never before so numerous, probably no contest between the light and the dark blue ever won such favourable reports, or provoked so few objections. The 'Dorset day' of the river is becoming one of the national anniversaries, and it would be a misfortune if any want of consideration for the public deprived the race of its chief attraction.

"Indeed, the advantages of having the contest at a reasonable hour are so obvious, that an inconvenient selection would be impossible, were it not for two considerations. In the first place, it is thought that in the fresh of the morning the boats are not so likely to be impeded by the over-crowded steamers. If such were



THE LATE MR. N. SHARP.

the case, we should admit the cogency of the argument; but we doubt the correctness of the belief. The steamboats are chiefly filled with persons who take a pecuniary or professional interest in the matter, and they would certainly be present under any circumstances. That the nuisance urgently calls for interference, no one will question. Some day or other, if the present system continues, we are likely to witness a terrible catastrophe. Indeed, it is difficult to believe that no authority exists to prevent river steamboats from taking too many passengers on board, or following too closely upon the rowers. If nobody has the power or the will to make such regulations as are essential for the safety of the public, then somebody should forthwith be invested with the requisite authority. The advocates of an early race will probably add, however, that time and tide wait for no man; and to the fact thus urged considerable weight must be allowed. We cannot forget the difference in point of date between the Oxford and Cambridge vacations, or the objections entertained in many quarters to the occurrence of the race in Passion Week. The number of days during which the match can take place, therefore, is extremely circumscribed. The crews are naturally anxious to have as much practice as possible; and the hours during which the tide is just upon the turn are naturally preferred to any other. Leaving aside all question of the extra labour involved when the stream is running strongly, the effect of a powerful current either way is to give an undue advantage to that party which has the choice of sides.



THE LATE MR. SMYTH LEE.

Yet, in spite of all these considerations, the force of which we should be the last to deny, we believe that the conversion of the public need not necessarily be sacrificed to that of the 'elites.' After all, the event may be fixed for any one of some seven days; and as each day shows a difference of about an hour in the rise and fall of the tide, it seems incredible that the time chosen should not be such as to let the Londoners witness the conflict. In making this appeal, we are speaking in the interest both of the Universities and of the public. Anything which tends to render Oxford and Cambridge more and more part and parcel of our national life, is an advantage to the country; and the character of a national festival is not a thing to be despised. More illers may think of nothing but their own comfort; still more naturally may the crowd think of nothing but the manner in which they can get through their task with the least strain upon themselves and the best chance of success. But persons who have at heart the social interests represented by the party of sightseers must express a wish that the two objects may be found compatible; and it is for the promoters and managers of the contest to consider how far a reconciliation may be practicable."

PEDESTRIANISM.

MATCHES TO COME.

MARCH.

- 17.—Mr. J. Saville's 500 Yards Novice Handicap, Higginshaw Grounds, Olham.
- 17.—Booth and Green—400 yards, 25s a side, Royal Oak Grounds, Manchester.
- 17.—Grey and Howlett—120 yards, £10 a side, Brompton.
- 17.—Alford and Pilkington—410 yards, 25s a side, Royal Oak Park, Manchester.
- 17.—Heppenstall and McClasham—440 yards, £10 a side, Fenham Park Grounds.
- 17.—Blacken and Johns—80 yards, 25s a side, Fenham Park Grounds.
- 17.—Huxtable and Owens—100 yards, 25s a side, Over to have yards start, Bow.
- 17.—Freak and Steel—440 yards, £10 a side, Fenham.
- 17.—Duffield and Oldfield—180 yards, £10 a side, Victoria Grounds, Leeds.
- 17.—Binns and Buckley—300 yards, 25s a side, Binns to have three yards start, Park Top, Halifax.
- 17.—Wright and an Unknown—80 yards, for £10, Fenham Park Grounds.
- 17.—Finn and Mansell—110 yards, 25s a side, Royal Oak Grounds, Manchester.
- 17, 19.—Messrs. Lowe and Taylor's 120 Yards Handicap, 25s, Wigan Borough Grounds.
- 19.—Homer and Webb—120 yards, 25s a side, Britannia Grounds, Tipton.
- 19.—Simmonds and Snayley—to walk seven miles, £10 a side, New Farnhall Grounds, Birmingham.
- 19.—Bailey and Luck—380 yards, £10 a side, West London Grounds, Brompton.
- 19.—Baggett and Lee—120 yards, £10 a side, Britannia Grounds, Tipton.
- 19.—Hartley and Stevens's Novice—140 yards, 25s a side, Wigan Borough Grounds.
- 19.—De Gras and Workman—440 yards, £10 a side, Aston Cross.
- 19.—Dudley and Howells—120 yards, £10 a side, Britannia Grounds, Tipton.
- 19.—Cooper and Mills—500 yards, 25s a side, Halesley Wick.
- 19.—Sauson and Small—300 yards, 25s a side, Bow.
- 19.—Pearce and Cox—100 yards, 25s a side, Albion Grounds, Dudley-road, Wolverhampton.
- 19.—Probert and Lewis—100 yards, 25s a side, Britannia Grounds, Tipton.
- 19.—Baker and Foster—100 yards, 25s a side, Britannia Grounds, Tipton.
- 24.—Barnes and Eastwood—440 yards, £10 a side, Eastwood to have 10 yards, Higginshaw, Olham.
- 24.—Bates and Dixon—100 yards, Dixon to have two yards start, Fenham Park, Newcastle, 25s a side.

More than usual interest has been attached to the proceedings at the Metropolitan Grounds during the past week; they will be given in our usual order, with the exception of the great match between Miles and Topley, for which we shall devote a special article, from exclusive particulars and information obtained by ourselves.

As the busy season is now approaching, when even our "broad sheet" must be economised to the very utmost on account of the great pressure upon our space, we would respectfully call upon our numerous correspondents to forward their communications as early as possible, to enable us to do that justice which it is ever our earnest wish to display towards all kinds of sports.

BROMPTON.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10.—The handiaps pronounced by different tradesmen, who thus bring out the various youths in their own immediate neighbourhood have of late given a fillip to pedestrian exercises; so it need not be wondered at therefore that there was a large concourse of spectators to-day at the West London Cricket Ground, to witness the

HANDICAP of 120 Yds.—According to the card it was termed rather grandiloquently, the All England Handicap, the first prize being £7, the second £2, the third £1, and the fourth 10s. Mr. H. Woodcock performed the office of referee, and Mr. Brown, the giver of the handicap, acted as starter. There was a numerous entry, which was divided into the following heats:—

First Heat: Harrison, with 10 yds start, came in first by two yds; Jones's Novice, 9, second; and Emmett, 10, third. Second Heat: G. White, 9, won by one foot; Gilbert, Esq., 12, second; and J. Paterson, 15, third. Third Heat: Tuck, 10 yds start, was the winner by two yds; Perry, 10, being second, and four yds behind the latter came Wood's Novice, third. Fourth Heat: Ford, 9, won by nearly a foot; Atkins, 11, second; Freeman, 10, third. Fifth Heat: Blandford, 6, came in first; Harrison, a lad, 13, second. Sixth Heat: Newton, 7, won by a yard; Garland, 3, being second; Mackrell, 12, third. Seventh Heat: Webb, 11, walked over. Eighth Heat: Joe Anderson, 8, won easily by four yds; Woodward, 11, second and Clark's Novice, 10, third. Ninth Heat: J. Parks, 12, won by 1½ yds; Burnell, 10, came in second; G. Harman, 9, being left on the mark. Tenth Heat: A. Austin, 8, won a good race by 2½ yds; Germain, 8, second, and Hodgson's Novice, 8, third. Eleventh Heat: C. Parkins, 13, got the start, and came in first by three yds; B. Passant, 10, second. Twelfth Heat: Isaac, 14 (3 to 1 agst), was the winner by a yard; T. Mills, 7, second; and W. Williams, 9, third. Thirteenth Heat: Arlington, 9, won by yds; Chapwater, 12, being second. Fourteenth Heat: J. R. Jenks, 11, and Gill, 12, were both put back one yard for starting before the report of pistol, but Jenks afterwards got

Watson was leading by a couple of yards, and from this point he gained upon Neap at every stride, ultimately passing the tape over four yards in front of the favourite.

BERKHAMPTON NEW GROUNDS.—These grounds were well attended on Monday, to witness a series of matches to be decided. Shortly after one o'clock the bell rang for the first match, between Parsons and Myrtle, both of Oradley Heath, to run 120 yards for £5 a side. Parsons had the best start and kept in front the whole distance, gradually going forward and finally winning by two yards. Mr. James referred to the result, saying, "6 to 5 on the winner."

W. Hopkins and T. Lees, both of Dudley, next tried their 100 yards spin for £5. The first portion of the distance they ran level, but Hopkins gradually took the lead and ultimately won by half a yard. Mr. Challinworth, of Dudley, the final stakeholder, acted as referee. Betting: 6 to 4 on Hopkins.

G. Buntion, of Bilston, and J. Holloway, of Ladbroke, then took the scratch for their 100 yards race for £10 a side. Mr. T. Rogers, of Bilston, acted as referee. Betting: 6 to 4 on Holloway, who was waited on by D. Dudley, of Stourbridge, whilst Buntion was attended by Johnson, of Oldbury. The start was admirable, and the race well contested by ending in a dead heat according to the referee, the parties of either making the usual disturbance. They again came forward, and after taking their places on the score, the cap came exploded, and Buntion went the distance alone. Another disturbance ensued, and the referee directed the runners to start a third time, at a last heat he did not desire the pistol to be fired. A third start was effected, of which Buntion had slightly the advantage, and after a well-contested race, won by half a yard.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

ALBION TAVERN GROUNDS.—William Turner's All England Novice 100 yds Handicap for money prizes, for men who had never won £10, commenced on Tuesday at 12 noon. The contest was divided into three heats. Mr. T. Morris referee, and H. Lownds starter. At half-past four the first heat commenced, when Young Morris, 16 yds, beat H. Littlewood, 20, by two yds; W. Mace, 14, beat R. J. Maffin, 17, being absent. Heat 2: J. Smith, 16, beat R. Boden, 17, by a yard; W. Allmark, 18, W. Leech, 17, absent. Heat 3: J. T. Jones, 16, beat C. Cox, 12, by a yard and a half. Heat 4: J. Lewis, of Wednesfield Heath, 18, beat W. Warrell, 18, by a yard; E. Hopley, 18, and H. Thomas, 16, absent. Heat 5: Young Hemmingsley, 18, beat J. Moran, 18, by a yard; J. C. Newman, 18, beat J. Melkin, 18, being absent. Heat 6: J. McDermott, 19, beat Jack Weston, 18, by two yards; S. Wood, 20, and M. Chapman, 19, of Wednesfield, absent. Heat 7: T. Johnson, of Wednesfield Heath, 17, beat G. Hudson, 17, by a yard; W. Kay, of Wednesfield Heath, and Gibbs, of Walsall, 15, absent. Heat 8: A. Perry, 17, beat F. Hancher, 16, by a foot; J. Good, 16, beat J. C. Newman, 18, being absent. Heat 9: T. Lownds, of Willenhall, 17, beat F. Chandler, of Wednesfield Heath, 16, by a yard and a half; J. Franklin, 19, third; W. Bourns, of Darlaston, absent. Heat 10: J. Bridgen, of Willenhall, 17, beat J. Sadler, 14, after a great struggle, with a distance of six inches only. Heat 11: J. C. Newman, 18, beat J. C. Newman, 18, being absent; and Young Dalmon, 20, a yard behind the third. Heat 11: J. Banks, of Daisy Bank, 16, beat W. Smith, 15, by a yard; O. Howler, of Walsall, 16, beat R. Harrold, 17, absent. Heat 12: Sam Gee, of Willenhall, 11, and J. Stuart, 11, ran a dead heat; J. Cattell, of Darlaston, 18, beat J. Stuart, 11, being absent. Heat 13: J. Rouns, of Wednesfield Heath, 18, beat S. Bridgen, 17, by half a yard, having previously run two dead heats; H. Edwards, 13, and J. Bennett, 19, absent. Heat 14: W. Barnes, 17, beat E. Dakin, of Wednesfield Heath, 13, by two yards; W. Lewis, 16, beat J. C. Newman, 18, being absent; Darlaston, absent. Heat 15: G. Smith, 18, beat W. Wilkes, 18, easily; P. Hilton, 19, W. Dugan, 19, absent. The winners then drew for the final heats on Tuesday, when they came off with the following result:—

The first heat was won by J. Bridgen, of Willenhall, 17 yds, who beat J. Rouns, of Wednesfield Heath, by ten yards. Heat 2: Young Hemmingsley, 18, after a well-contested race, beat A. Perry, 17, by a foot. T. Johnson, 17, a good third. Heat 3: J. Lewis, of Wednesfield Heath, 18, beat J. Smith, 18, by a yard and a half. G. Smith, 18, third. Heat 4: J. Sawyer, 18, beat J. McDermott, 19, by a yard. The final heat was won by Young Dalmon, 20, by a yard; J. Bridgen, 17, J. Sawyer, 18, and J. Lewis, 18. The men got away well together, and a capital race followed, which was won by Lewis, who was a foot before Sawyer, with Hemmingsley a yard behind, and Bridgen bringing up the rear. The prizes were awarded accordingly. Mr. T. Morris was referee, and J. C. Newman, of Lownds starter. Betting: 2 to 1 against Lewis, 3 to 1 against Hemmingsley and the others.

ROMPTON.

MONDAY.—TOPLEY AND MILES.—2,000 persons assembled to witness the 21 miles match for £25 a side between these well known men. The men engaged are both celebrities, though young Topley has only sprung into note since he walked 21 miles against time, but Miles is well known of any number of races, in which a long quick stride and great staying powers were required. To give his performance is needless, but we may state that Topley in December last year covered over the same course 21 miles in 2h 38m 25sec. His best time in his best year was 2h 20m 25sec, and he is now 21 miles in 2h 11m 55sec. For the present match, as for any other, he was well trained under John Smith, the Regent-street Post, and came to the scratch in fine condition, accompanied by his mentor, Miles, who had been taking his breathings at Liverpool under John Brighton, also took well and hard enough for anything, and came to the mark with Brighton and Miles, who acted as time-keepers, and Miles, who was performing a like office for Topley. Mr. H. A. Reed officiated as referee, and at three o'clock the men dashed away, Topley going to the front, and completing the first lap in 1m 33sec at least thirty yards ahead of Miles. The difference in style of going between the two was very great, Miles being a long, slow, steady stride, whilst his adversary moved with quick but short jerky steps, which rendered his walking anything but pretty, though it may be effective. The first mile was done by Topley in 6m 50sec, Miles, who was some distance behind, completing the same length in 7m 25sec. At the close of the second mile Topley had gained half a lap, and their respective times were Topley 14m 38sec, Miles 15m 45sec. The third mile, Topley all the while going with undiminished force and vigour, whilst his adversary paced along with his splendid stride, brought the timekeepers to 21m 29sec against Topley, and 22m 41sec against Miles. Sixteen miles, or nine miles, were run in 1h 3m 45sec, as Topley's time, Miles's being 30m 15sec. Five miles, 36m 15sec against Topley, 37m 47sec Miles. Six miles, 43m 40sec Topley, 45m 17sec Miles. At the close of the seventh mile—time, 50m 55sec—Topley led one clear lap, or 440 yards, and a yard behind Miles he walked along the same mile in 1h 3m 45sec, and Miles in 1h 3m 29sec; the fourth 1h 4m 49sec. Here Miles had passed into the second lap of the eleventh mile, a little "chaff" went on amongst the backers of the men, and as one of Miles's partisans said Topley could not go in front, John Smith gave him the "office" to do so. On hearing the words "Get along, George," he spurred, and was off like a shot, Miles, who seemed fairly to be standing still. When eleven and a half miles had been covered, Topley led twenty yards, in addition to his one lap, and at the termination of the mile the time was 1h 22m 47sec. The twelfth mile saw Topley still further in front, and from the signs which Miles hung out for he had lost all his line and was by this time it was evident that he must soon knock under. The time at the end of the twelfth mile was 1h 30m 45sec, and at the end of the thirteenth 1h 38m 55sec, and here Topley had nearly overhauled his opponent for the second time. Two more turns brought them together, and at the end of the 54th lap (thirteen miles and a half), and when 1h 40m 45sec had elapsed, Miles was fairly done, and he tottered into the arms of John Smith, who saw the end had come. Topley did another journey, and then was told that he might stop, though, notwithstanding his hard work, he failed to show symptoms of distress.

At the early part of the walking Topley's style was undoubtedly "shaky," and many said, "See, he's running," but of this there can be little doubt, that he is one of the fastest goers of the day.

COKER AND FOSTER.—Both are of Walsworth, and ran a quarter of a mile for £5 a side. Mr. Wm. Price was referee, when, in getting

off, Foster took the lead, but was soon caught and passed at 100 yds; Coker kept the lead to the end, and won by three yds.

TUESDAY.—There was a large attendance to witness the principal event set down for decision, to wit, Mr. R. Kennett's Handicaps, when the following sports were decided, for three fine silver cups, commencing with a quarter of a mile.

TWO MILE WALKING HANDICAP.—There were fifteen out of the twenty-one who contested for this race. Target, 50 yards start, won by 40 yards; Jobbins, 100, second; and Martin's Novice, 350, third.

HALF MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.—There was a large entry for this race, twelve out of the twenty-six starting in the first lap. Harper, 55, was first, but soon gave up, Parsons rushing to the front coming in a winner by six or seven yards; Donovan, 70, second. Four yards behind the latter came German, who was third.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YARDS HANDICAP.—First Heat: Walling, 10, won by one yard; Ada, 13, second; and Wilson, 25, who had a wooden leg, was forced to give up 50 yards from home. Second Heat: Curd, 13, won by one yard; Clegg's Novice, 11, second; Rowden's Novice, 13, third. Third Heat: Atkins, 10, and Walling's Novice, 13, ran two dead heats, but in the end Atkins won by half a yard. Fourth Heat: Donaldson, 13, came in first by one yard; Webb, 8, second; Sills, 12, third, 14 yards behind Webb. Fifth Heat: Perrin's Novice won by six yards; Hall, 14, second. Heat 11, third. Sixth Heat: German, 8, was the winner by 14 yards; Wilmsburat, 13, second; 14 yards behind the latter came Evans's lad, 12, who was third. Seventh Heat: Wild, 11, won by three yards; Phillips, 12, second. Eighth Heat: Collins's lad, 13, won easily; Johnson's Novice, 9, second.

Final Heat.—Walling, Curd, 13, Atkins, 10, did not start. Donaldson, 13; Perrin's Novice, 14; German, 8; Wild, 11; Collins's lad, 13. This was a good race, but at the finish Perrin's Novice won by three yards; Collins's lad second; Walling third. There was one yard and a half between second and third. Mr. H. Reed was the referee, and Mr. Kennett referee.

BIRMINGHAM.

ASTON CROSS.—An off-hand match of 120 yds for £7 10s., came off here on Tuesday afternoon between De Grass, of Birmingham, and Weardon, of London. The same parties had run a like distance for £5 a side on Monday, at New Vauxhall Grounds, in which De Grass was the winner; but Weardon, attributing his loss to having to turn a corner, determined on having another spin; accordingly, the second match was made, and De Grass allowed a yard start. Weardon was attended by Horne, of London, and De Grass by Mordike's Novice. The 15 minutes allowed for the race having elapsed, Mr. Richards, of the Shepherd and Shepherd, Abchurch Lane, was deputed to fire the signal, when Weardon had an advantage at starting which brought him to the side of his opponent, with whom he continued the whole distance and ran a dead heat. After a brief interval, they again appeared on their marks, when De Grass had the best start by a yard, and after a clipping race won by a foot. Mr. Lester referee. Betting commenced at 5 to 4 on Weardon; in the second race it varied to 6 to 4 on De Grass. This is the fourth time within this fortnight that the Birmingham pads have taken the shine out of their County competitors.

Hunt, of Tipton, is matched to run G. Harlestone, of Birmingham, 114 yds, for £10 a side, Harlestone to have a yard and a half start: to be run at the Britannia Grounds, Tipton, on Easter Monday, Mr. T. Welsh, of Oldbury, referee.

MANCHESTER.

CURRY GROUNDS.—A short notice of the John Brittain of Hulme, announced his intention to give £20 to be run for an All England Handicap, distance 380 yds. The entries named 73, out of whom 85 cried content to the handicapper's judgment. On the appearance of the "weights" Barton was made the favorite, and he held the premier position down to the day. Prior to the first heat Henry found several friends, who took 5 and 6 to 1 against him. Henry was not nipped at the same price, but the transactions were not large. The opening heats were in number, and resulted as follows, nearly 500 persons being present:—Heat 1: J. C. Oaten, Openshaw, 38 yds start, 1; R. Quail, Liverpool, 42 yds; 2; T. Carney, Hulme, 46 yds. Won by one yard. Heat 2: A. Baka, Manchester, 42 yds; 1; J. C. Oaten, 42 yds; 2; J. Thomas, Manchester, 44 yds. Won by three yds. Heat 3: J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 1; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 2; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 3; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 4; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 5; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 6; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 7; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 8; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 9; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 10; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 11; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 12; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 13; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 14; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 15; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 16; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 17; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 18; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 19; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 20; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 21; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 22; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 23; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 24; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 25; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 26; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 27; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 28; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 29; J. Shaw, Springfield, 40 yds; 30; J. Greenfield, Manchester, 40 yds; 31; J. 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SHOOTING.

EXTRAORDINARY MATCH FOR TWENTY POUNDS.

EXTRAORDINARY MATCH FOR TWENTY POUNDS.
Samuel Clayton, who acquitted himself with credit on Friday, again made his appearance at these grounds, on Saturday. Mr. Turner Wilson, one of the spectators of the match on the previous day, thought it would be a good thing if he looked the feathered tribe in the same way as he had done on Friday. He therefore offered a match for twenty-five for the shooter to slaughter out of the two, half, named Clayton was only too glad to accept the challenge, and presented himself at the time appointed. The scales having been adjusted, weights and measures were found to be correct. The first shot was fired, and Mr. Wilson was ready for his task, and at this stage Wilson offered £20 to £1 that Clayton did not repeat his Friday's performance, viz., kill the first seven. This found no acceptor, which afterwards turned out a lucky lot for Clayton. The first two birds were killed, and put to the credit of the shooter. The third was a miss, the fourth kill, the next two were missed, then six killed, a miss, kill, and a miss. Thus the first half were disposed of, and of that number twenty were brought down, leaving only one out of the two. Clayton then offered £10 to £1 that he would kill a third of at least four for retirement, after which the shooter fired at thirteen and killed five, which brought the day's sport to a conclusion. Had the gun been properly cleaned during the last portion of the shooting, the conclusion would have been arrived at in a much shorter time. There are something like these matches opened at even, but the rapid destruction of the pigeons had the effect of silencing the betting fraternity. The trapping was under the management of Mr. Joe Gregory, the refreshment being undertaken by Mr. W. Bailey. Below we give the result of each shot:—
1st shot 25 0 10 000 00 10 00 11; total, 5 out of thirteen; leaving 12 unshot at.

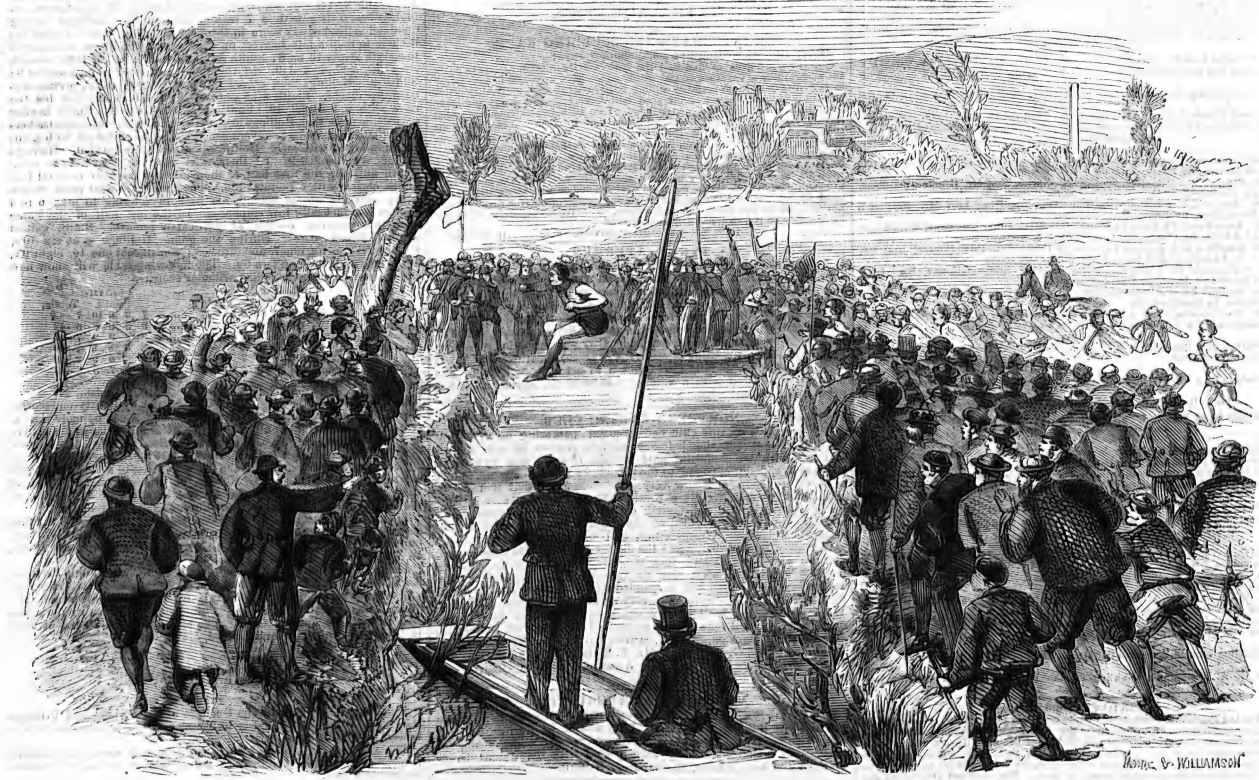
ASHBURNHAM PARK.

On Monday the attraction at these popular grounds was very great, and a large attendance of shooters and sporting men put in an appearance. The cups advertised to be shot for were postponed until next

ed, and brought down his bird in first-rate style, and Mr. Smith followed suit; Mr. Gardner killed his second, and Mr. Smith missed his. 2 to 1 was now laid to money on Mr. Gardner. However, they both kept sailing away, and at the end of the sixteen sparrows Mr. Gardner had the lead, and the property was now in his hands. His opponent's 11. Sixteen pigeons each were the next to be performed on, when neither shot up to their sparrow form, as when they had been shot at 13 each they died, by each killing 18 from the commencement of the match. The property was now again in Mr. Gardner's hands, and shooting at double the quantity of birds, which was most readily agreed to on the part of Mr. Page for Mr. Gardner. The money being duly deposited in the referee's hands, they once more took to hand. Mr. Gardner shot up to his sparrow form, and killed 18, and Mr. Smith, when up to the present time Mr. Smith was one bird ahead, having killed 20 to his opponent's 19. They then shot at 16 more pigeons each, and the birds not being so good they made great slaughter. Mr. Gardner shot up to his sparrow form, and killed 18, and Mr. Smith, at the end of the match being in the enviable position of three birds ahead. Offers of 6 and 7 to 4 on Mr. Smith, with very few takers. They now had 16 sparrows each to shoot at to conclude the match, and Mr. Gardner shot up to his sparrow form, and killed 18, and Mr. Smith headed his opponent three birds. The talent was all flooded, as they thought Mr. Gardner invincible. Offer, as usual, found the birds. The pigeons at the first part of the match were very good, but it was mainly to the bad quality of the sparrows that Mr. Gardner owed his victory.

Mr. Page and Mr. Smith made a match and signed articles during the evening to shoot at 50 pigeons each, from five traps, for £250, to come off at Ashburnham, on Saturday, April 7, which no doubt will cause great excitement in the shooting world.

AT Mr. Charlton's, the Mason's Arms, Kensall-green, on Friday, March 16th, a fat pig, value £12, will be shot for by twelve members, at £1 each, to shoot at 7 pigeons each, from H and T traps, to be fairly handicapped from 18 to 25 yds rise, 80 fall. A large muster is expected, as several are already entered. Morgan will have a good supply of blue rocks, starlings, and sparrows. Commence at one o'clock.



OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE ATHLETIC SPORTS.—CLEARING THE BROOK.

wee, and sweepstakes shooting became the order of the day. Six competed for the first, at 10s. each, 25 yds rise, from five traps three yards apart, 11oz shot, the use of both barrels, five birds each, the ground the hundred. Mr. Pago won by killing all his birds. The same number entered for the second, when Mr. Cooper, Mr. S. M., and Mr. Smith tied by killing four out of five, and agreed to shoot it in the next sweep, when Mr. S. M. won by killing four out of five. Mr. Pago, and Mr. S. M. in the next on the same conditions, when Mr. S. M. won, and Mr. Pago tied by killing all, and shot it off at five birds each, when Mr. Pago won by killing four out of five. The game was kept alive by six entering for the fifth sweepstakes, when Mr. Cooper won by killing all. The same number shot again for the sixth sweepstakes, when Mr. Pago and Mr. S. M. tied by killing five, and Mr. Cooper, Mr. Smith, and Mr. S. M. won the second round. Six again entered the lists for the seventh and last sweepstakes, when Mr. Smith won by killing 4 out of 5. During this sweepstakes a bird fell, apparently dead, a long way from the trap, in bounds, and a noted West-end publican laid £5 to 1s. that the bird was gathered, odds which were eagerly accepted, but much to the layer's consternation, as soon as Hammond got up to gather it, the bird was found to be a common house sparrow, and the bird, which was first-class, and with a dash of bay-shooting nearly 30 years were now dead of old.

LILLIE ARMS, BROMPTON.

Saturday has will long be remembered as "red letter" day at these grounds, when the attendance numbered upwards of 900, including all the noted London shots of the present day, as well as many of the old frequenters of the Red House, the attraction being a brace of 23½ size, between two and sixteen sparrows each from H and T gardens, 21 yds rise, the use of both barrels, 1¼oz shot, the ground the boundary. Also at sixteen pigeons each, 26 yds rise, the same conditions. It was a long time before the prospect of such a good deal, for the shot, umpire, &c.; but eventually they were all overcome, after nearly an hour had been cut to waste. The betting at starting was 6 to 4 on Mr Gardner, and 5 to 2 on every other side, which price was soon altered to 7 to 4 on Mr Gardner, who was the winner. He was selected to go first (the sixteen sparrows were the first to be shot

BREACH OF PROMISE CASE

The interest with which the following will be read, we are assured, is quite sufficient by way of apology for our insertion of the trial at length.

In the case of Thorne v. Bright, an action for breach of promise to marry, was tried at Dorby assizes last week. Mr. Serjeant Hayes said the real plaintiff, Miss Annie Thorne, was 19 years of age, and, therefore, might be legally called an infant. She was the daughter of a respectable tradesman, and resided at the house of her father, Rutland. Her father was a builder, and had a family of ten children, but, unfortunately, he died before he could see them settled in life, and the plaintiff accepted a situation as lady's maid in the family of Mrs. Dixon, of Page Hall, Sheffield. Mrs. Dixon and her daughters went to Dorby, and the plaintiff remained there about a month. One of the greatest attractions in the town was the shop of Mr. Bright the jeweller. The defendant was Mr. Michael Octavius Bright, who was 33 or 34 years of age, the son of Mr. Bright, Mrs. Dixon and family called at the shop as usual, and the defendant was very attentive to them. A young lady, who was possessed of great personal attractions, Mr. Bright, jun., proposed to her and was accepted before the family left Buxton. After she left Buxton defendant began corresponding with her. The correspondence lasted from May, 1865, to October of the same year, and during that time the defendant was very kind and affectionate to the plaintiff, but, there was hardly a day but a letter—and a long one too—was received by her. (Laughter.) His (Counsel's) brief contained 80 folios of them. (Laughter.) He would read a few extracts from some of the letters written by the defendant to the plaintiff. (Laughter.) "I have your own darling letter," he anxiously looked for letter received. "I know you are longing to hear from me. (Laughter.) I can well imagine how lonely you must be away from me. (Laughter.) I am like a fish out of water; but I shall not give you any more of my own dear letters. (Laughter.)" "I hope I shall hear much from that little letter of yours." (Loud laughter.) "Let me know how you are, I promised to see you as soon as I could, but as you are old, I am saying, say, 'Absence makes the heart grow fonder.' (Laughter.) I have got your care. I will write my mamma and tell her of the letter, but not about you, I should give her charms for me. Write by return." He also added, "Be careful of yourself. Take port wine as I told you. Accept my love." No declaration's name was Octavius

but he signed himself "Fevy." (Laughter.) In the next no s. s. A. "God bless you, my ducky. (Laughter.) I will write to you every day, no matter how busy I may be. D.V.Y. hope to see you before long. (Laughter.) Let me hear from you by day. As soon as I commence my letters to you my pen goes green by steam. (Laughter.)

(Roars of merriment.) Monseigneur! (Laughter.) I have been writing, "I am glad to hear you are such a good child; you cannot be so particular. (Laughter.) I will come and fetch you away soon, for you shall not be put upon by anyone." On the 15th June there is a long letter, in which he says, "I don't want to come after you to Pago Island. Wait a little longer, until I visit you as a lady should be desired. (Laughter.) You shall go with me, and I will take care of Annie, so you have to satisfy Mrs. Dixon's curiosity. Quite right. She wanted to make you believe about my not marrying you, but I shall marry you. I am pleased that you refused to go to London. Lord D. may go to the d— (laughter)—before I allow you to go." (Laughter.) On the 17th June another letter, "Love is the poor student who will win you. (Laughter.) You shall love at the time I like best, but I must not neglect. One kiss like this." (Laughter.) [Here follows a pictorial illustration of what was intended for a kiss.]—(Roars of laughter.)—A letter on the 15th July says, "I had a long talk with father last night, until half-past-one. You should have seen his face when I told him I was going back to school. He said, 'What a pity!' and he said it was a very nice portrait, but he opposed my being married." On the 15th July he writes—"I trust, please God, to find you looking first-class. (Laughter.) I propose being married in November." He went to Northampton, and told Mr. Pearce he could make £1,000 a year if he set up for himself. Whilst at Northampton the defendant arranged for his wedding to take place on the 16th of November. The defendant was a man of a different character was dated September 22, after she had left her situation and told him that her mother could not afford to support her. He writes:—"My dearest Annie,—Yours safely to hand this morning, and contents noted." (Roars of laughter.) On the 30th September he gives a reason for breaking off the connection. "Annie," he writes, "I have thought much lately about whether I ought to marry you, but he has not. Don't grieve and make a bother. I cannot doubt but he will come round. You misunderstood me if you

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For some time past a report has been pretty freely circulated, and in some quarters has gained credence, that Cheltenham would lose its pack of hounds; and why the rumour was believed was because it was well-known that the respected master, Mr. Gregog Colmore, had intimated that after the present season he should retire from the hunt. It was written as to hunting the Broadway country, and it has been threatened by the gentlemen composing the Broadway Committee to start another pack. An influential meeting was held at the house of Mr. John B. French, and the result was that it was stated that he had seen Lord Redesdale and Mr. E. Holland, and he had explained the position in which Cheltenham was placed; and those gentlemen

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Who took boldly a line of his own,
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Were all most delightfully "thrown."

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Sterns' dropping and skinkers' snoring their foe,
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For his courage, his strength, and his "pluck."

What kind of a fox Gladstone's got in his bag
This Monday will serve to discover;
If a small weakly thing like those who
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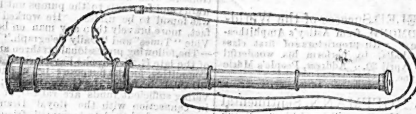
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